

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-6 were previously pending in this application. Claims 1-6 are hereby canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of any subject matter of those claims. Claims 7-12 are added as set forth in the **Complete Listing of Claims** section of this paper. No new matter is introduced by the amendments, which are clearly supported by the specification and drawings as filed.

Following the amendments set forth herein, claims 7-12 are pending and presented for further consideration in this application.

COMPLETE LISTING OF CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

- 1-6. (Canceled)
7. (New) Device for sectioning a vertebral lamina comprising:
 - a longitudinal plane of the device and first, second, and third axes, none of which axes are parallel or collinear and all of which axes lie in the longitudinal plane of the device;
 - a base adapted to position the device and protect the medullar canal when sectioning the lamina;
 - a sectioning component mounted in the base and adapted to slide linearly along the first axis, the sectioning component comprising a sleeve through which passes the second axis and a cutting element distal from the sleeve and lying within the longitudinal plane of the device;
 - a first piston mounted in the sleeve and adapted to slide linearly in the sleeve along the second axis, which sliding induces linear sliding of the sectioning component in the base along the first axis; and
 - a second piston attached to the first piston opposite the sectioning component and adapted to slide linearly in the base along the third axis, which sliding induces linear sliding of the first piston in the sleeve along the second axis.
8. (New) Sectioning device according to claim 7, in which the second piston comprises a body provided, at one of its ends, with a ring into which the first piston engages, the ring being held on the first piston by a screwhead and, at the other of its ends, with a handle, the body being slide-mounted in a tube of the base of the device, and the handle being sized larger than the tube diameter.

9. (New) Sectioning device according to claim 8, in which the base further comprises:

a bottom part in which the sectioning component slides, the bottom part having a rail in which the cutting element slides; and

two adjacent side faces, each side face comprising a first portion having a longitudinal axis parallel to the first axis and a second portion having a longitudinal axis parallel to the third axis.

10. (New) Sectioning device according to claim 9, in which the tube extends from the second portions of the side faces.

11. (New) Sectioning device according to claim 10, in which the bottom part opposite the tube has a tapered portion, and the first portions of the side faces each comprises a recess arranged to permit sliding of the tapered portion between adjacent vertebrae and abutting of the device against the lamina to be sectioned.

12. (New) Sectioning device according to any one of claims 7-11, in which the cutting element has an end beveled to facilitate sectioning of the vertebral lamina.